

# Sex Work Research Hub - Newsletter

## No:1 1st November 2015

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Welcome to the 1st newsletter of the Sex Work Research Hub. Thank you to all those hub members who have provided features & information for this first edition. We hope to build on this and develop the newsletter as we go. We will be making a call to members for features for the 2nd newsletter to be published in Spring 2016.

## Opening Feature: Sex Work Research Hub Origins & Aims

By Professor Maggie O'Neill, CSGS,  
Durham University

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The Sex Work Research Hub started out as an idea that Rosie Campbell (Leeds & Durham University) and myself had in relation to connecting researchers and academics across a range of Universities and disciplines working on sex work, sex working and sexual exploitation as well as, eventually providing responses to policy initiatives, research briefings/resources, training and research consultancy. Guided by participatory principles a plan was put together and discussed with Teela Sanders (Leeds University) , Mary Laing (Northumbria University), Jane Scoular (Strathclyde University), Laura Graham (Durham University), Nick Mai (Kingston University), Tracey Sagar (Swansea University) and Debbie Jones (Swansea University) who all commented on the document and in the process the plan was fine tuned and launched at the Sex Work in the North SexGen symposium at Durham University, February 2015.

Coordination is underpinned by participatory, collaborative approach and is shared between Durham and Leeds Universities, I set up the jisc mail and am currently looking after the web site, and the next sex work research hub seminar on 2nd December 2014 (Paul Maginn, University of Western Australia), Teela looking after membership applications and the affiliated postgraduate research conference and Rosie taking the lead on the first of the twice annual newsletters. The SW Research hub has a broader advisory group made up of the people mentioned above and a growing membership base that currently covers the UK and Ireland with some members from Australia, Canada and New Zealand.

The sex work research hub is intended as a safe space for researchers, students, sex workers, external partners and stakeholders concerned with sex work and the sex industry in its broadest

sense to support and develop research that produce new knowledge, supports and shares research and networking as well as delivering tangible public benefit and impact.

The Sex Work Research Hub is underpinned by the principles of:

- Collaboration and Networking
- Participatory Action Research – collaborating with sex workers, practitioners and grass roots organisations
- Evidence based policy
- High ethical standards in sex work research
- Research & evaluation that informs policy and praxis
- Advances in research methodology including visual, performative and filmic methods

Response has been excellent so far and we look forward to exciting affiliated seminars, conferences, research as well as supporting a growing number of sex work researchers doing their PhD's and affiliated networks in the UK and Ireland - and sharing this via the jiscmail at events and in the newsletter! The Wolfson Research Institute at Durham has just awarded the SW Research hub the sum of £1,500 to support the administration of the hub and the development of activities. More on this very soon!

To join the Sex Work Research Hub JISCMail networking list by sending an email to [listserv@jiscmail.ac.uk](mailto:listserv@jiscmail.ac.uk) Subject: BLANK Message: SUBSCRIBE SEXWORKRESEARCH-HUB By signing up for the sex work research hub discussion group you are accepting and signing up to the following terms: <https://www.dur.ac.uk/csqs/sexworkresearchhu/>

## Reports on Recent Conferences & Events

**Conference Report: Prospol Action Meeting - Porto, 21st-23rd September 2015** By Professor Jane Scoular (Strathclyde University) & Stewart Cunningham (Strathclyde University)

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Prospol is an EU Action network that aims to exchange, enhance and compare knowledge about prostitution policies across Europe. Many sex work hub members have taken part. Professor Jane Scoular co- chairs Working group 1 (which examines Prostitution Policies and Politics) and Stewart Cunningham gave an overview of sex worker led activism in Scotland at the Porto meeting which is described below.

The 5th Prospol meeting in Porto <http://prospol.eu/is1209/index.php/events/porto> considered the theme of 'Collaborative governance in prostitution policy' and included an opening plenary by Catherine Healy (New Zealand Prostitutes' Collective) who reflected on her vast experience as she discussed the theme of 'Engaging with Sex Workers: The Role of Government'. This was followed by Professor Hendrik Wagenaar (University of Sheffield) who discussed 'To what Extent Is Collaborative Governance in Prostitution Possible?'

This theme was carried over into the meeting of Working Group 1 where representatives from sex worker activist groups were present from a number of different countries (Germany, Netherlands, Scotland, Canada and New Zealand). The Group heard in detail about the work of these different groups and their own approach to collaborative governance with examples given of successes and challenges faced. The Working Group meeting rounded off with discussion and debate not only on the role of sex workers in regulation and governance but also how academics can and should work with activist groups.

Later in the evening there was an open screening of the film 'Das 9 às 5: Trabalho sexual é trabalho' ('Working 9 to 5: sex work is work') and a Q & A with its director, Rita Alcaire. The film explored the Portuguese sex industry in its widest sense and included interviews with a range of different workers including sex shop owners, sex toy distributors, strippers, porn performers and escorts.

The meeting ended on the final day with a panel on prostitution policies in Portugal, including Alexandra Oliveira (Prospol Member & University of Porto); Marisa Matias (European MEP of the Left Block); Érica Postiço (Portuguese Network of Sex Work & GAT); Isabel Soares (APDES/Porto G & Indoors) and Ana Luísa (Sex worker & Activist). We learned that while prostitution is legal in Portugal the laws that exist around the exploitation and facilitation of prostitution impede the adoption of collective (and safe) working practices for sex workers.

The next Prospol meeting takes place from 21st – 23rd March 2016 in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

**Conference Report: Policy and Politics 2015 Democracy, Inequality and Power: Redefining Classic Concepts for the 21st Century, 15-16 September 2015. Special Panel From 50 Shades to Monochromatic Sexual Citizenship: Regulating Erotic Labour, Sex Work and Pornography in the 21st Century.** By

Professor Maggie O'Neill, CSGS, Durham University

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It was very exciting to be involved in the special panel organised by Paul Maginn and Erin Sanders-McDonagh at the recent Politics and Policy Conference at Bristol, September 2015. A conference within a conference I attended two days of three brilliant sessions that left me feeling energised and encouraged by the work 'sexademics' (Paul's term) are doing currently. Paul and Erin invited papers/posters from PhD students, early career and established academics, policy researchers working within the public, private and NGO sectors, sex worker organisations and sex workers that speak to the themes of the panel and the conference. Paul set the bar and tone in a warm and inclusive way with an excellent first paper and it was great to engage in the research being presented and discussed and meet new people working in this area and old friends too.

We considered 'the landscape of sexual citizenship and commerce in the 21st century and the implications/impacts of government policies aimed at regulating the production, provision, consumption and transmission of different forms of erotic labour (e.g. pornography, striptease/erotic dancing, burlesque and sex work) plus other forms of consensual commercial and private sexual activities'. The panel sought 'to question and understand the ways in which these restrictions are legislatively imposed and geographically situated'.

Panel 1 speakers were : Paul Maginn & Christine Steinmetz on 'The 50 shades effect': Geography, Typology and Regulation of Adult Retailing in Perth & Sydney; Emily Cooper "Turning a Blind Eye"?: The politics of sex work (in)tolerance in neo-liberal times; Katy Pilcher, Subverting heteronormativity in a lesbian erotic dance venue? Queer moments and heteronormative tensions ; Magali Peyrefitte & Erin Sanders-McDonagh, Mapping gentrification: Critical Cartographies of London's Soho.

Panel 2 speakers were:: Clarissa Smith, War on Porn: Questions of Policy, Representation and Research Maggie O'Neill & Mary Laing, Sex Worker Rights, Recognition and Resistance: towards a radical democratic imaginary ; Belinda Brooks-Gordon, Sex and Support Online and Gemma Commane, Sit on my Face! Women, Pleasure and Creative Protest in the City

Panel 3 speakers were: Billie Lister "...and at the end of the day, you know, it's all down to making money..." : The drive for cash and shifting power relations in Scotland's lap-dancing clubs: A problem for Policy , Alex Feis-Bryce, National Ugly Mugs: An innovative approach to improving the safety of sex workers . Jane Nolan The 'Whore Stigma' and the Social Regulation of Sex Work in Queensland and New South Wales; Rebecca Rae Improving the safety of sex workers using a decentralised mobile app and Matt Ryalls Sexualization and Fashion Cultures.

I am hoping Paul leads on a special edition of a journal as I really want to use these papers in teaching and research!

## Seminar Report: 'Sex Work in the North', Centre for Sex, Gender and Sexualities (CSGS) and St Aidan's College, Durham University, SexGen seminar, February 18th 2015. By Rosie Campbell Durham and Leeds Universities.

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A symposium, Sex Work in the North was organised by the Centre for Sex, Gender and Sexualities (CSGS) and St Aidan's College, Durham University as a SexGen seminar on February 18th 2015 and focused specifically upon the key issues and challenges faced by sex workers, researchers, activists and support projects in the North of the UK in times of austerity, political turbulence and neo-liberalism. Speakers were invited to share the key challenges for sex work research, practice, policy and activism in the context of the Bedford v Canada case in Canada, current regulatory frameworks and discourses and the cutting edge research and knowledge produced by the invited speakers.

CSGS was very pleased to announce the launch of the Sex Work Research Hub at this event a partnership of Universities working together to support and promote sex work research, policy and practice.

Raven Bowen (University of British Columbia) opened the conference with a fabulous keynote: Justice Denied: Insights and Lessons from Canadian Sex Workers Post Bedford. This was followed by a range of stimulating presentations;

- Douglas Fox, [IUSW and Harlots Collective] Harlots Collective and Challenging Perceptions Of Sex Work;
- Rosie Campbell [Basis/Genesis, Leeds and Durham Universities] Sex Work, Hate Crime & Ugly Mugs: Challenges Addressing Violence Against Sex Workers in the North of the UK
- Teela Sanders [Leeds] Engaging Practitioners with Sex Work Research: How to Begin the Road to 'Impact'
- Laura Graham, [Durham Law School] Street Sex Work in England and Wales: An Article 10 ECHR Analysis
- Dr Mary Laing [Northumbria] and Prof. Maggie O'Neill [Durham] Sex Worker Rights, Recognition and Resistance: towards a radical democratic imaginary and last but not least, Prof, Nick Mai [London Met and LAMES/MMSH Aix-Marseille University] screened his latest film Assembling

'Samira' and 'Travel': challenging sexual humanitarianism through ethno-fiction and experimental filmmaking.

<http://sexgennorthernnetwork.wordpress.com/> <https://www.facebook.com/groups/SexGenNorthernNetwork/> <https://www.dur.ac.uk/csqs/>

## Forthcoming Conferences & Events

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A rich range of conferences and events focused on sex work are taking place in the UK during the last few months of 2015 and into early 2016. Here are ones we are aware of;

**3rd November 2015, 11-19.00: Decriminalisation of Prostitution – the evidence, organised by the English Collective of Prostitutes. Venue: House of Commons, London.**

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ECP describe the event as taking place in the aftermath of Amnesty International's recent vote in support of decriminalisation, and its call on governments to review the prostitution laws and provide resources in the form of "state benefits, education and training and/or alternative employment" to help sex workers leave prostitution if they want. There are a wide range of international and UK speakers. See initial program at: <http://prostitutescollective.net/events/>Contact

ECP: [ecp@prostitutescollective.net](mailto:ecp@prostitutescollective.net)

**4th November 2015, 10.00-13.00: Sex Work Research and Policy: Follow-up Session to the ECP Evidence Gathering Event, organised by, FemGenSex, Middlesex University, Venue: College Building Room C210, London.**

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This event follows-on from the ECP Evidence Gathering Panel, to bring together academic/practice sex work networks across the UK, with a particular aim of strengthening existing groups across the south/southeast/southwest that work on these issues, and in conversation with the excellent networks already running in the north and other areas of the UK. Confirmed speakers include: Feona Attwood (Middlesex University), the English Collective of Prostitutes, Lucy Smith (Ugly Mugs

Ireland), Tanya Serisier (Queens University, Belfast – all-Ireland Commercial Sex Network), Paul Maginn (University of Western Australia), Rosie Campbell (National Ugly Mugs), Billie Lister (Leeds Beckett), Stewart Cunningham (University of Strathclyde and Co-Chair of SCOT-PEP), Erin Sanders-McDonagh and Lucy Neville (Middlesex University), Itziar Bilbao Urrutia (Birmingham University), Stacey (East London Strippers Collective), Belinda Brooks-Gordon (Birkbeck University)

## 10th November, 6pm-1-pm, Briefing on the Proposed Prostitution Law Reform Scotland Bill

Location: Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, organised by SCOT-PEP

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This is an opportunity to learn more about the proposals in Jean Urquhart MSP's proposed Prostitution Law Reform (Scotland) Bill and why the decriminalisation of sex work is essential to improve the lives of everyone who sells sex in Scotland. The proposals, which have been developed in close consultation with current sex workers, are based on the New Zealand model. Confirmed speakers so far include: Jean Urquhart MSP & Catherine Healy, New Zealand Prostitutes Collective Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/briefing-on-the-proposed-prostitution-law-reform-scotland-bill-tickets-18972309689>

## 12th and 13th November Working It: Sex, Work and Performance

Thurs 12th Nov Working It Keynote - Film Screening (Samira) with Q & A, followed by a wine reception. Location and Time: 6:30pm Film and Drama Studio, Arts 2, Queen Mary University, London.

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Samira is a 28 minutes two-screen art-science installation presenting an ethnographic account of the life history of Karim, an Algerian migrant man selling sex as a travesti at night in Marseille. After the screening, Dr Ros Murray (Queen Mary University) will host a conversation with film-maker Professor Nicola Mai (University of Kingston, London). This event is free and open to the public but booking is required: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/working-it-keynote-samira-film-screening-with-professor-nicola-mai-tickets-19032573941?aff=es2>

## Friday 13th November 2015: Working It - Sex, Work and Performance, Conference

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Location and Time: 10am – 6pm Film and Drama Studio, Arts 2, Queen Mary University, London.

This event is free and open to the public but booking is

required:<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/working-it-an-interdisciplinary-conference-on-sex-work-and-performance-tickets-19032610049?aff=es2>

This interdisciplinary conference will explore the connections and relationships between these three terms. How do we perform sex, perform at work, work at sex, and work at performing sex? Drawing on theories of social reproduction and aspects of queer thought, we want to reflect on the terms sex, work and performance together in order to demystify a certain romanticism that often underpins their evocation. Further details about the schedule and speakers can be found at the conference

website:<https://sexworkperformance.wordpress.com/conference-schedule/>

## 19th November 2015 9.30-2.30 : North East Sex Work Forum, Regional Learning Day

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Venue: Acklam Green Centre, Stainsby Road, Middlesbrough TS5 4JS. The day is hosted by local projects, informing and raising awareness on the nature and extent of sex work and sexual exploitation in the North East. Guest speakers will cover topics such as the male sex work; violence against sex workers and the impact of National Ugly Mugs; internet based sex work and the impact of policy and law on the conditions of indoor based sex workers within the UK. To register for this free event email [g.trueman@archnortheast.org](mailto:g.trueman@archnortheast.org) by Monday 26th October

## 2nd December 2015, 18:00 to 20:00. The Sex Work Research Hub and Afterwork, Centre for Sex, Gender and Sexualities, Seminar

Dr. Paul Maginn, , Lindisfarne Centre, St Aidan's College, Durham University, Dr Paul Maginn, Move Over Sectarianism! Hello Sextarianism! Religion, Feminism and the Regulation of Commercial Sex in Northern Ireland

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Location: The Lindisfarne Centre - University of Durham. St Aidan's College; ZIP: DH1 3LJ

Refreshments on arrival at this free SW Research Hub/CSGS event.

## 17th December 2015, 9.30-17.30 When Work is Sex: Bodies, Choice and Capitalism, London

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This conference has been organised by the x:talk project and is supported by the Sex Worker Open University, SCOT-PEP and STRASS (France). This is an opportunity for sex workers, activists and academics who are interested in the politics of work and sex to come together to take stock of the sex worker movement and to consolidate and to strengthen the multiple campaigns, plans and struggles that are already in motion. It will also be a space to debate and discuss some of the different politics and perspectives that have developed in the sex worker movement. We are interesting in asking questions and debating what the goals and orientation of the sex worker rights movement should be. What should a union for sex workers look like? How useful (or limited) is the language of rights? What demands are being made and which should be being made? How can we 'scale up' our activities? How can we develop a more robust anti-capitalist orientation? The conference is open to those who are interested in where the sex worker led movement has come from, where it is going and how we can develop a more radical politics of sex work. The conference is organised into three streams Bodies, Choice and Business. The conference organisers would like to invite participation in the form of papers, panels and workshops framed around the following themes:

- Bodies
- Choice
- Business

Submissions for conference papers, panels and workshops are due by November 1st. Please send submissions to [dec17conf@gmail.com](mailto:dec17conf@gmail.com) with your name (or working name if you prefer), title, short (300 words max) description and any access or equipment needs you have. Register at: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/when-work-is-sex-bodies-choice-and-capitalism-conference-tickets-18706273969>

Email [dec17conf@gmail.com](mailto:dec17conf@gmail.com) to add your organisation's names to the list of supporters.

## 12th January 2016, 9am – 5pm: 4th Postgraduate Sex Work Conference (Sex Work Research Hub)

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Location: Social Sciences Building, Room 12.21/25, University of Leeds

Dr Teela Sanders will be hosting the 4th Postgraduate Sex Work Conference as part of the Sex Work Research Hub networking activities and supported by members of the Yorkshire Academic Sex Work Consortium. The one day conference is open to students at any stage of their doctoral

studies, to share ideas and findings in a respectful and supportive environment. Delegates are welcome to learn from new and innovative research activities and engage in current debate and discussions.

Enquiries and abstracts of 250 words should be sent to [t.l.m.sanders@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:t.l.m.sanders@leeds.ac.uk). Abstracts to be received no later than 18th December 2015.

Registration for the conference costs £20 and is available from the University of Leeds online store:

<http://store.leeds.ac.uk/>

## Sex Work Research Project Updates

**The Student Sex Work Project** By Debbie Jones and Dr Tracy Sagar, Swnasea University

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Funded by the Big Lottery Innovation Fund, The Student Sex Work Project was the first study in Europe to reveal the motivations and experiences of student sex workers in the United Kingdom. The project also explored the attitudes and experiences of Higher Education (HE) staff across Wales as well as University responses to student participation in the sex industry. The project was launched in September 2012 and as it draws to a close in November 2015 we thought we would share some of our thoughts and more importantly provide a snap shot of the findings.

What do we know now about student sex work that we didn't know when we started?

Well thanks to the amazing students who took the time to fill out the 'Student Sex Survey', we know that almost 5% of students had/are working in the sex industry and that almost 22% had considered it.

We also know that the motivations for working in the sex industry are multi-dimensional

And that male students are as likely to work in the sex industry as females

But we also know from our inspiring student sex workers who became project members and peer researchers that their biggest fear was that the Universities in which they studied would find out about their work and they would lose their place at University. We also learned that some student sex workers need support and that others don't.

What were the benefits of combining research with service delivery?

For those of you familiar with the project you know it is unique and innovative, but endeavouring to combine academic research with service delivery wasn't easy. How do you ensure the safety of service users? When do the research questions end and service delivery begin? But in the end it did work. We got to know our project members really well. Online data collection/service provision afforded the opportunity for people to speak to us in total anonymity and with confidence. This process/experience was undoubtedly enhanced by our enthusiastic student volunteers, who gave up their time to support the project and support student sex workers.

How do you make research findings interesting and accessible to the public?

This is an easy question to answer, you work with Professor Chris Morris (<http://christophermorrisfilms.co.uk/film/>). Chris and the production company Visual Influence (<http://www.visualinfluence.co.uk/>) worked tirelessly to produce 'Fog of Sex' (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5M5Ajq2koMo>). The most wonderful thing about this film is that it is based on the real testimonies of students working in the sex industry and that those who shared their stories were thrilled that they had been represented in a way they wanted. We were thrilled that it won a BAFTA Cymru award for photography at this year's awards.

What's the future?

We are delivering a series of face-to-face training across Wales in November (please email the project for more information [ccjc-sswp@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:ccjc-sswp@swansea.ac.uk)).

We will continue to disseminate Fog of Sex and some of the service element of the project will hopefully be continued by THT.

On the 11th of November 2015 we will also launch the Consortium for Sexuality Studies (CSS): Innovation; Research and Practice at Swansea University (please email the project for more information and to book a place [ccjc-sswp@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:ccjc-sswp@swansea.ac.uk))

We wanted to finish by saying thank you to everyone that has supported this project but especially the student sex workers who gave their time and stories so willingly in the hope that we could help people to better understand their situations (each one individual) and a very special thank you goes out to an amazing young woman, Belle/Holly, this project was about you and for you. You inspired us, thank you.... Debbie Jones and Tracey Sagar

**Beyond the Gaze** By Rosie Campbell, University of Leeds and Durham University

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A team of researchers lead by Dr Teela Sanders (Leeds Uni) and Prof Jane Scoular (Strathclyde Uni) in the commenced work in September 2015 on a 3 year, UK wide, Economic and Social Research Council Funded participatory action research Study “Beyond the Gaze: The working practices, regulation and safety of Internet-based sex work in the UK”. It’s a pleasure to be part of the team based at Leeds Uni with Teela and working with our team colleagues at Strathclyde, Jane Scoular, Stewart Cunningham and Jane Pitcher.

Our overarching question is: How has the Internet shaped the 21st Century adult commercial sex industry in the UK and what is the role of regulation?

The aims of our research are:

a) to understand the wider theoretical significance of new technologies for changing the social practice of sexual consumption and the sex industry. b) to map the trends and understand the working practices in Internet-based sex work markets within the broader processes of the regulation and policing of sex work in the UK. c) to facilitate the integration of Internet-based sex work into safety and health-related provision, policies and agencies.

Partners: National Ugly Mugs (UKNSWP) are a key partner agency and we have the support of SAAFE escort forum.

Methodology/Strands of the Research: there are a range of strands to the project which has prominent practice & policy impact elements;

- Sex worker involvement via: UK wide online sex worker advisory group, peer researchers and other ways as identified by sex workers
- Large UK wide online survey of sex workers (building on the Wellcome Trust one Teela and colleagues did with NUM)
- Qualitative interviews with sex workers and regulators of online sex work activities
- Mapping of UK internet based sector
- Benchmarking of the services sex work support projects are providing to internet based sex workers, identifying good practice & producing good practice guidance for working with internet based sex workers with NUM (UKNSWP) and an advisory group of practitioners and sex workers.
- Developing with NUM (UKNSWP) a practitioner online netreach service for sex workers (all gender identities) providing information on safety, a signposting gateway to health, welfare & other services

and offering a confidential listening service. Also working with Basis Sex Work Project (Leeds) to enhance their locally based online information and advice.

- Production of a digital resource for sex workers, production of a digital resource for practitioners (both based on research findings), plus wider range of impact and dissemination activities

Website: our website is now live- it is a work in motion and will develop as we go - so do have a look and let people know Follow us on twitter @beyondthegaze

We look forward to working with some of you on this project as it develops and further collaborations emerge.

## Policy Issues

### Proposals lodged with the Scottish Parliament for a Prostitution Law Reform Bill in line with the New Zealand model. Stewart

Cunningham, SCOT-PEP & Strathclyde University

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On 8 September 2015 Jean Urquhart MSP lodged a draft proposal with the Scottish Parliament for a Prostitution Law Reform (Scotland) Bill, triggering a public consultation. Jean has developed her proposals in close cooperation with sex workers and sex worker led organisations like SCOT-PEP making this the first time that sex workers themselves have been centred in the development of prostitution policy in Scotland.

At present the Scottish government defines prostitution exclusively as a form of violence against women and there have been a number of attempts made to criminalise the purchase of sex by members of the Scottish Parliament. These proposals, therefore, represent a radical and new policy framework for Scotland. One of the key messages contained in the consultation document is a call for law and policy makers to recognise that sex workers are a diverse and multiple group who have a range of different experiences in sex work.

The proposed bill is modelled on the New Zealand Prostitution Reform Act 2003 and is focused on changing the law to reduce harm. Like in the rest of the UK the act of selling sex is legal in Scotland but sex workers face arrest and prosecution for a range of ancillary activities, which puts them in greater danger and inhibits the adoption of safe working practices.

The proposals put forward in the consultation document include the repeal of soliciting and kerb-crawling laws; legislating to make it possible for up to four sex workers to work collectively from the

same indoor premises; a licensing regime for larger brothels; and the repeal of laws that criminalise “living on the earnings of prostitution” to make it legal for sex workers to have joint finances with partners, family members and flatmates.

The public consultation is open until 1st December 2015 and can be found

here: [http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4\\_MembersBills/2015-09-](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/S4_MembersBills/2015-09-)

[3 Prostitution Law Reform Bill consultation - final.pdf](#). Academics and researchers with experience in researching the sex industry are strongly encouraged to respond.

There will be a 'Briefing on the Proposed Prostitution Law Reform Scotland Bill' on 10th November, 6pm-1-pm, at Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, organised by SCOT-PEP, Register

at; <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/briefing-on-the-proposed-prostitution-law-reform-scotland-bill-tickets-18972309689>

## Opposition to Private Members Bill to Ban Prostitution Advertising

Rosie Campbell, Leeds & Durham Universities

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National Ugly Mugs/UK Network of Sex Work Projects ( supported by some academics), the ECP and a number of other groups and individuals have opposed a Private Members Bill from Lord MColl of Dulwich to prohibit the advertising of prostitution <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2015-16/advertisingofprostitutionprohibition.html>

UKNSWP/NUM sent a letter to all members of the house of laws raising several concerns and expressing opposition to the bill. The bill received it's 2nd reading in the House of Lords on Friday 23rd October. A number of members of the house raised points made in the letter. The Bill was read a second time and was committed to a Committee of the Whole House, there should be 1 be opportunities to raise concerns and mobilise opposition.

## Recent & Forthcoming Publications

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Thanks for all those who had chance to send information and made us aware of a range of recent and forthcoming publications on sex work and related matters, we have included all that we received. Keep these coming for future newsletters so we can share research findings and scholarship on sex work! So much excellent work going on.

## Books

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Laing, M., Pilcher, K. and Smith, N (eds) (2015) *Queer Sex Work*, London, Routledge.

## Journal Articles

Ahearne, G (Forthcoming Jan 2016) 'Paying the Price: Sex Workers in Prison and the Reality of Stigma', *Prison Service Journal*.

Bowen, R. R (forthcoming) "Squaring Up: Experiences of Transition from Off-Street Sex Work to Square Work and Duality-Concurrent Involvement in Both- in Vancouver, B.C." , *Canadian Review of Sociology/revue Canadienne de Sociologie*.

Busza, J., Mtetwab, S., Chirawub, P., Cowan, C (2014) 'Triple jeopardy: adolescent experiences of sex work and migration in Zimbabwe', *Health and Place*, Vol 28, July 2014, Pages 85–

91. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1353829214000495>

Copper, E (forthcoming) "It's Better Than Daytime Television": Questioning the Socio-Spatial Impacts of Massage Parlours on Residential Communities, *Sexualities*.

Delany-Moretlwe, S., Cowan, F.M, Busza, J., Bolton-Moore, C., Kelley, K and Fairlie, L 'Providing comprehensive health services for young key populations: needs, barriers and gaps', *Journal of the International AIDS Society* 2015, 18 (Suppl

1).<http://www.iasociety.org/index.php/ijas/article/view/19833>

Elison, G (2015) 'Criminalising the payment for sex in Northern Ireland: Sketching the contours of a moral panic' *British Journal of Criminology*, 28 Sept 2015.

Macioti, P. G (2014) 'To be Liberal is not enough A progressive prostitution policy has the "whore stigma" as well as combat the criminalization of sex work'. *Viewpoints*

7/2014<http://www.rosalux.de/publication/40374/liberal-zu-sein-reicht-nicht-aus.html>

Mtetwa, S., Busza, J., Davey, C., Wong-Gruenwald, R. and Cowan, F (2015) 'Social networks, competition and support among sex workers in Zimbabwe', *BMC Public Health*,

15:787.<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/15/787>

Pitcher, J (2015) 'Sex work and modes of self-employment in the informal economy: diverse business practices and constraints to effective working'. *Social Policy and Society*, 14 (1): 113-123.

doi:10.1017/S1474746414000426.

Pitcher, J and M Wijers (2014) 'The impact of different regulatory models on the labour conditions, safety and welfare of indoor-based sex workers', *Criminology and Criminal Justice*, 14(5) 549–564. DOI: 10.1177/1748895814531967.

## Journal Special Editions

**Connelly, L., Ahearne, G. and Jarvis-King, L. (eds) 'Blurred Lines: The Contested Nature of Sex Work in a Changing Social Landscape', Special Edition in the Graduate Journal of Social Science [Online]**

**Available:** <http://gjss.org/> (forthcoming, November 2015)

This special edition of the Graduate Journal of Social Science explores the contested nature of the sex industry, a global industry operating within socio-political contexts that have witnessed an array of changes in recent years. The papers in this collection contribute to advancing critical understandings of the ways in which the changing social landscape has been experienced by those engaged globally in commercial sex work. In so doing, this edition seeks to agitate some of the polarised debates often present within sex industry discourses by exploring some of the oftentimes overlooked nuances – the blurred lines – between the different sex markets, between sex as work and other forms of labour, between agency and constraint, and between care and control. At its core, *Blurred Lines: The Contested Nature of Sex Work in a Changing Social Landscape* represents a shared vision to combine the voices of academics with those working within the sex industry and with practitioners, in order to offer a meaningful consolidation of research and lived experiences.

This special contains:

- Editorial - Laura Connelly, Gemma Ahearne and Laura Jarvis-King Saving Us From Penetration: Ponderings of a Trans Rentboy - Jet Young
- Between the Sex Industry and Academia: Navigating Stigma and Disgust - Gemma Ahearne
- 'Yeah, they've started to get a bit fucking cocky...' Culture, Economic Change and Shifting Power Relations within the Scottish Lap-Dancing Industry - Dr Billie Lister
- Victor or Victim? Foregrounding the Independent Escort Experience Outside of the Polarised Debate - Rae Harris and Glen Jankowski
- Direct Sex Work in Great Britain: Reflecting Diversity - Dr Jane Pitcher
- The Changing Landscape of Scottish Responses to Sex Work: Addressing Violence against Sex Workers - Emma Smith

- Contested Spaces: Exploring the Intersection of Migration, Sex Work and Trafficking in South Africa - Dr Rebecca Walker and Elsa Oliveria
- The 'Rescue Industry': The Blurred Line Between Help and Hindrance - Laura Connelly
- Photo Essay - Toni Stone

**Social Policy and Society (2015), Vol 14 , Issue 1, Jan- Themed Section on The Cultural Study of Commercial Sex: Taking a Policy Perspective. This sections contains;**

Hammond, N and Attwood, F 'Introduction: The Cultural Study of Commercial Sex: Taking a policy perspective', pp 79-82.

- Sanders, T., Hardy, K and Campbell, R 'Regulating Strip-Based Entertainment: Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy and the Ex/Inclusion of Dancers Perspectives and Needs'. pp 83-92.
- Hammond, N 'Men Who Pay for Sex and the Sex Work Movement? Client Responses to Stigma and Increased Regulation of Commercial Sex Policy', pp. 93-102.
- Carline, A and Scoular, J 'Saving Fallen Women Now? Critical Perspectives on Engagement and Support Orders and their Policy of Forced Welfarism', pp 103-112.
- Prior, J and Crofts, P 'Is Your House a Brothel? Prostitution Policy, Provision of Sex Services from Home, and the Maintenance of Respectable Domesticity', pp125-134.
- Pitcher, J 'Sex work and modes of self-employment in the informal economy: diverse business practices and constraints to effective working', Pp 113-123.
- Pettinger, L 'The Judgement Machine: Markets, Internet Technologies and Policies in Commercial Sex', pp135-143.
- Berg, H 'Trafficking Policy, Meaning Making and State Violence', Pp 145-146.

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayIssue?jid=SPS&volumeld=14&seriesId=0&issueId=01>

## Blog Articles

Prabha Kotiswaran and Sam Okyere have guest-edited a special issue of blogposts on gender and trafficking <https://www.opendemocracy.net/beyondslavery/prabha-kotiswaran-sam-okyere/gendered-victims-of-antitrafficking> for their Open Democracy blog , Beyond Trafficking and

Slavery <https://www.opendemocracy.net/beyondslavery>. Week 1 of the blog in particular has many posts on the relationship between trafficking and sex work and how sex work continues to occupy a central place in the appeal that anti-trafficking discourse has for law and policy makers. By Prabha

Kotiswaran, Reader in Law and Social Justice, The Dickson Poon , School of Law, King's College London Strand, London.

Laing, M, Smith, N and Pilcher, K 'Queer sex work' book: <http://www.e-ir.info/2015/08/18/towards-a-queer-political-economy-of-sex-work/>

Pilcher, L <http://discoversociety.org/2015/10/06/the-full-monty-women-customers-experiences-at-a-male-strip-show/>

## Features for future newsletters!!

This newsletter is a vehicle for collaborative knowledge share amongst the group. If you want to submit a feature for a forthcoming newsletter, have info about forthcoming events, conferences, publications or any other ideas for the newsletter please send them to [r.campbell@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:r.campbell@leeds.ac.uk) We will send a call for features in early 2016.